

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE 23RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGIC FALL OF SOUTH VIETNAM TO COMMUNISM

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today it seems fitting that with the 23rd anniversary of the fall of Saigon to Communism, special recognition of the memories, feelings, and introspections regarding April 30, 1975, are in order. We must pay special tribute and remember the sacrifices of our soldiers and our Vietnam Veterans who fought and died in the name of freedom and democracy.

Many Vietnamese experienced first hand the deprivation, humiliation, and fear associated with losing their country, their way of life, and their freedom. But all who left their Vietnamese homeland to come to the United States chose a life filled with uncertainty, change, and struggle over a life in their homeland under a Communist thumb.

While I am at home visiting with my constituents, I am disheartened by the stories of their experiences during that conflict. It is often difficult to fully appreciate the extent to which these diligent people have survived all manner of disasters and trauma and have gone on to lead civil and productive lives.

Mr. Speaker, we must continue to be vigilant to keep this memory alive in our hearts. We must tell the story of their brave sacrifices to our children and our children's children. We must ensure that the important cause that we fought for is not forgotten by future generations.

COMBATING TERRORISM: TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE; COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, April 23, 1998, I testified before the Subcommittee on National Security, International Affairs, and Criminal Justice; Committee on Government Reform and Oversight. On this occasion, I discussed a series of reports, prepared at my request by the General Accounting Office (GAO). These reports detail the United States' substantial efforts to combat terrorism. I share my remarks with the Members of the House.

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT, APRIL 23, 1998

Chairman Hastert, members of the subcommittee, it gives me great pleasure to appear before you today. I appreciate the opportunity not only to speak about an important issue to our nation but also to bring attention to a substantial body of work produced by the General Accounting Office (GAO). This "work in progress"—to date, a series of four reports—will eventually produce the most comprehensive overview of our nation's effort to combat terrorism. As Chairman Hastert knows all too well, this is a daunting task. Without his leadership and effort, we would have a far more vague picture of our government's activities. Let me briefly review these recent findings.

First, GAO released a July 1997 report entitled, "Combating Terrorism: Status of DoD Efforts to Protect Its Forces Overseas." Dealing with anti-terrorism, this report concluded that uniform security standards were necessary to assure the safety of Americans around the world.

Second, GAO released a September 1997 report entitled, "Combating Terrorism: Federal Agencies' Efforts to Implement National Security Policy and Strategy." Focused on Counterterrorism—or those offensive measures for deterring, resolving, and managing terrorist acts—this second report represents the first comprehensive examination of federal activities to combat terrorism. It pointed out that more than 40 federal departments, agencies, and bureaus, are involved in this activity. It also outlined specific roles and responsibilities of federal agencies, as well as their respective capabilities.

GAO released its third report in December of 1997. Focused on total government-wide spending levels to combat terrorism, this product—and the process leading up to its publication—closely tracked with congressional interest in the subject. As many of you know, during floor consideration of the fiscal year (FY) 1998 Defense Authorization Bill, an amendment—my amendment—was accepted to require the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to disclose overall spending levels directed against terrorism. Known as Section 1051 and taken together with GAO's third report, enough evidence surfaced to offer both encouragement and concern. Although it seemed that a significant amount of resources were annually committed to combat terrorism, the following inefficiencies were exposed:

No regular government-wide collection and review of funding data existed;

No apparent government-wide priorities were established;

No assessment process existed to coordinate and focus government efforts; and

No government office or entity maintained the authority to enforce coordination.

As a result, the third report recommended that the National Security Council (NSC), OMB, the departments, and agency heads—such as the State Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)—build upon the new statutory requirement em-

bodied in Section 1051. I am also pleased to report that this remains an annual obligation, requiring by March of each year an annual overview of government-wide efforts to combat terrorism around the globe.

Finally, at the request of Chairman Hastert and myself, GAO has recently released its fourth and latest product on the subject, entitled "Combating Terrorism: Threat and Risk Assessments Can Help Prioritize and Target Investments." Again, enough evidence has been provided to question the federal government's level of funding. This last report—responsible for reviewing the implementation of the Nunn-Lugar-Domenici domestic response program—hopefully will assist with the establishment of consistent national standards and priorities.

THE THREAT

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee: In your mind's eye, join me and imagine what it was like in 1995 for the Senior Airman at a remote location in a foreign land, relaxing after a long, hot, stressful day in the Arabian desert;

Imagine, too, what it was like in 1996 for the federal employee beginning the day in Oklahoma, pouring coffee, grabbing a breakfast snack, and preparing for morning briefings;

Imagine what it was like in 1993 for Americans—businesswomen, diplomats, tourists, visitors—milling innocently about in the heart of New York City, one of our nation's busiest locations;

Imagine, if you can, what it was like for these individuals before these three locations became infamous for the catastrophic events that followed. To a person, none expected anything but completion of an average day; yet all experienced a jolt, a shock, a sense of horror, as chaos and bedlam brought an abrupt halt to their respective routines.

The bombing victims at Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia were trained military professionals in a foreign land. The bombing victims at the Oklahoma City Federal Building and the World Trade Center, were average American citizens—civilians—at home in their communities, totally unprepared for the violence they were forced to experience.

Despite the different circumstances, all three events share in common one unavoidable, tell-tale truth: Americans died brutally, without warning, unnecessarily, and in a manner that will almost certainly be imitated in the future. In 1995 and 1996, about one-fourth of all international terrorist acts were against U.S. targets; and although the number of terrorist incidents both worldwide and in the United States has declined in recent years, the level of violence and lethality of attacks has increased. Violent events in the past, may encourage further attempts to strike America in places such as our own yards, back home in our districts, and other places where attacks might be least expected. Enemies of the United States, I fear, have adopted effective methods and means to strike against America.

Surely, enemies to America—both foreign and domestic—recognize the military capabilities of the United States. It is hard to ignore our successes throughout history and

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

around the globe; it is difficult not to marvel at our technological advancements; and it is nearly impossible to overlook our massive military might at sea, in the air, and on the ground. Our naval, air, ground, and Marine forces remain superior and unmatched in today's world.

Further, enemies to America—both foreign and domestic—almost certainly recognize the capabilities of our domestic law enforcement and emergency response officials. The Federal Bureau of Investigations, or FBI, the U.S. Secret Service, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), U.S. Customs, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) are highly respected worldwide. Their standards currently set those of the international community.

But what of the point at which the responsibilities of these two communities intersect? Do our domestic law enforcement capabilities effectively coordinate with those of the Department of Defense? In the case of another incident on American soil, are Defense Department officials prepared to effectively support local officials? Are existing programs—such as the Emergency Response Assistance program, the Rapid Response Information System, and the Nunn-Lugar-Domenici "First Responder Training" program—adequately funded to handle a future incident, particularly one involving a weapon of mass destruction (WMD) such as a biological or chemical agent, or nuclear device?

We better be sure.

Is the threat real? I believe wholeheartedly that it is.

Are we in danger of overstating the threat? I am not sure. But, let me share with you something about which there is no doubt. I implore you to consider two lists, one based on capabilities, the other based on alleged activities. I ask you first to consider the list of nations around the globe known to either possess or nearly possess the capability to produce chemical and biological weapons—you are, of course, familiar with the unclassified list: North Korea, China, India, Pakistan, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Syria, and Russia. Second, I ask you to consider the group of nations singled out by the State Department for engaging in state-sponsored terrorism. Again, you are familiar with the list's membership: Cuba, Iran, Iraq, Libya, North Korea, Sudan, and Syria. Finally, I ask you to look at the correlation between these lists and ask you to decide. Are you willing to risk the potential consequences of not being prepared?

THE RESPONSE

To properly prepare for potential terrorist acts we must set forth with a political commitment to attain both efficiency and adequate resource levels across the entire federal government.

The recent past offers a bit of optimism. A relatively high level of Congressional support has existed:

The 1994 National Defense Authorization Act expressed a sense of Congress that the President should strengthen federal inter-agency response planning for early detection and warning of—and response to—potential use of chemical or biological agents and weapons.

The Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1996 required the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Energy to submit to Congress a joint report on military and civil defense response plans.

The 1997 National Defense Authorization Act required the President to take immediate action to enhance the capability of the Federal Government to prevent and respond

to terrorist incidents involving WMD and to provide enhanced support to improve both the response and deterrent capabilities of state and local emergency response agencies. More than \$50 million in assistance was authorized.

And just this past year, the budget request for the Defense Department included \$49.5 million for support of the domestic emergency preparedness program. The resulting 1998 authorization provided for this request as well as an additional \$10 million for equipment for the Marine's Chemical-Biological Incident Response Force and \$10 million to support development of a domestic/biological counter-terrorism mission for the National Guard.

But I am concerned about our nation's ability over the next few years to attain efficiency or to sustain such a commitment. The Defense Department rightly assumes a supportive role during a terrorist incident within the United States, leaving the Department of Justice the primary responsibility for response and coordination. Yet even a role supportive in nature has come at a great cost—in both manpower and dollars. Much of the highly specialized expertise resides in DoD; and most of the highly-trained individuals necessary for such tasks are also from the Department of Defense. Unfortunately—for them, for their families, and for our nation—these same individuals are often needed elsewhere, in overseas contingencies around the world. In these strict budgetary times, support and training assistance to domestic authorities is placing Defense personnel under a terrible strain.

This year's budgetary constraint is particularly tight and I have not received information to cause me to believe that anything might be different in the near future. This is not to say there aren't several matters to provide encouragement, such as the recent announcement to authorize 10 Rapid Assessment and Initial Detection (RAID) teams within the Guard and Reserve components. Indeed, the collocation of these teams with FEMA regional offices just might provide the necessary "bridge" between federal and state officials and spawn better coordination.

Yet, I am aware of the Defense Department's budgetary struggle to meet existing requirements and must assume that this new effort might also find itself at risk of receiving inadequate resources. We should look closely at this recommendation before committing a large sum of our precious—and increasingly scarce—financial resources. And we should recognize that this resource pool is declining further now that FEMA has recently decided to withdraw itself from any lead-agency role. Without its assistance, the Defense Department must now find additional, previously unanticipated budget authority over the next 4 years to support this requirement.

As the work of GAO has helped us discover, our approach may be fundamentally flawed: perhaps too many different federal agencies and local governments possess existing or emerging capabilities for responding to a WMD attack; uneven and nearly incompatible levels of expertise often exists; duplication and poor communication may complicate our effort; and public complacency may threaten to weaken our overall capability. To be sure, if I must leave only one message today, let it be this: coordination problems may exist; but these problems pale in comparison with the potential problems resulting from public complacency.

Mr. Chairman, there is a Chinese proverb that states, "May you live in interesting

times." We should be thankful that we do. We also live during challenging times. At a time of budget cuts, force drawdowns, streamlining, and reductions in military personnel endstrength levels, we are faced with a familiar threat that is growing in importance. To counter the terrorist threat—to provide as much safety to Americans at home and abroad—we may need to not only strengthen and reinforce existing capabilities but legislate additional resources. If we fall in this calling, we may face another day when—without warning—an innocent American again falls victim to such evil.

TRIBUTE TO BERNARD B. KERIK

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention Bernard B. Kerik, who was officially sworn-in as Commissioner for the City of New York's Department of Corrections.

On December 23, 1997, Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani announced the appointment, effective January 1, 1998, of the Department of Correction's First Deputy Commissioner, Bernard B. Kerik, as Commissioner.

Mr. Kerik, as Commissioner, oversees an annual budget of approximately \$792 million, a civilian and uniformed workforce of about 13,000 and an inmate population of some 133,000 admissions yearly in the Department's 16 jails, 15 court detention pens and four hospital prison wards. As First Deputy Commissioner, he was responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Department. He has been appointed by Mayor Giuliani to the position of First Deputy Commissioner January 24, 1995. Mr. Kerik served in prior positions with the Department as Executive Assistant to the Commissioner and as Director of the Investigations Division.

Prior to DOC, Mr. Kerik served with the New York City Police Department for eight years. After uniformed and plain clothes duty with anti-crime and narcotics units in Midtown South and Manhattan North commands, he was assigned to the U.S. Justice Department's New York Drug Enforcement (DEA) Task Force. There, he helped direct one of the most substantial narcotics investigations in the history of that office, resulting in the conviction of more than 60 members of the Cali Cartel. Mr. Kerik received 28 citations for meritorious and heroic service during his tenure with NYPD, including that Department's Medal of Valor.

Before joining NYPD, Mr. Kerik was the Warden of the Passaic County Jail, the largest county adult correctional facility in the State of New Jersey, responsible for the administrative direction of the 265 uniformed and civilian staff and an annual budget of \$7.2 million. He also served as that Department's Training Officer, assistant commander of the Sheriff's Emergency Response Team, and commander of the Special Weapons and Operations Units.

Mr. Kerik spent nearly four years in various security assignments in Saudi Arabia, training Saudi and other nationals in physical security and police patrol operations. Before that, he

served as an MP for three years in the U.S. Army, assigned to the 18th Airborne Corp where he trained Special Forces personnel at the John F. Kennedy Unconventional Warfare Center, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He was also a member of an all-Army martial arts team.

Mr. Kerik has a diverse background and education in international and domestic anti-terrorism, personal protective security and special weapons and operations. He has been commended for heroism by President Ronald Reagan and the Cities of Paterson and Passaic, New Jersey. He has received the DEA Administrator's Award, the Medal of Valor from the International Narcotic Enforcement Officers' Association, and a Special Achievement Award from the Special Narcotics Prosecutor for the City of New York.

In December, 1997, he was appointed by the Mayor as a member of the newly-formed New York City Gambling Control Commission. The five-member Commission is charged with establishing and enforcing regulations for ship-board gambling to ensure that consumers are protected from fraudulent practices and to prevent the influence of organized crime.

Mr. Kerik is vice chairman of the Boy Scouts' Greater New York Councils Law Enforcement Exploring Division. He also chairs the Michael John Buczek Foundation's annual fundraiser that honors law enforcement heroes across the nation. Named in memory of a 34th Precinct, officer slain in the line of duty, the Foundation provides financial assistance to youth foundation in that neighborhood and to the law enforcement community in New York and New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, the family and friends of Commissioner Kerik's, and the City of New York, in recognizing the many outstanding and invaluable contributions Bernard B. Kerik has made to public safety through his distinguished career in law enforcement.

SENSE OF CONGRESS ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING OF MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. OWEN B. PICKETT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. PICKETT. Mr. Speaker, Rabbi Zoberman, the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach, Virginia and past President of the Hampton Roads Board of Rabbis and the Virginia Beach Clergy Association, made the following statement on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel:

The Jubilee anniversary of the State of Israel is not an ordinary occasion. Rather it is a poignant reminder of the durability of a dream; reflecting the daring of a people small in physical size but large in vision, not to depart from history's stage in spite of immense and harassing pressure to the contrary.

Throughout the two millennia of dispersion following the Roman devastation, the Jewish people skillfully integrated their

longing for Zion into their spiritual quest and way of life, bonding themselves to the land where they came to be and which served as the dramatic setting for fashioning a transforming Biblical legacy that continues to inspire as well as challenge humanity.

Israel was driven not only by its particular agenda of uniqueness and survival, attempting to transcend both geographic and tribal boundaries in a fervent embrace of a universal message of shalom unshaken by its painfully experienced lack of it. Thus its undying hope for the welfare of the human family became a source of consolation and strength in its struggle to persevere in face of terrifying odds. Its welcomed return into the family of nations came only after the tragedy of the Holocaust deprived it of a third of its people, destroying European Jewry and threatening the very continuity of an ancient folk, ironically entering the period of modernity with enormous trust in the inevitable progress of the human species and its ability to overcome past limitations.

Colonial rule over Palestine first by the Turks for four hundred years and then, from 1917 to 1948 under the British Mandate, coupled with growing Arab antagonism and hostility toward the Jewish presence, made the fulfillment of the prophetic promise of return so much more trying. Winning independence following the support of the United Nations and the defeat of the invading Arab armies by the meager and ill-equipped Israeli forces, was the beginning to an arduous journey of absorbing millions of Jewish refugees from decimated Nazi-Europe and persecuting Arab lands. My own family of Polish survivors was among them, seeking the blessing of healing in rebuilding shattered lives while giving birth to a dynamic democratic society, still the only one in the Middle East, with the demanding agenda to be faithful to the noble principles of its great legacy of values and vast suffering.

How remarkable are the accomplishments of the reborn entity in light of a constricting environment of mighty obstacles, constantly exposed to moral danger! It has managed to create, out of necessity, one of the best militaries in the world in the context of a vibrantly flourishing Western culture, establishing renowned institutions of higher learning, rescuing and integrating immigrants from multiple and diverse backgrounds such as Ethiopia and the former Soviet Union, reaching out to help Asian and African countries, developing a significant hi-tech industry and offering new models of creative communal living, most notably the kibbutz.

Israel's stamina and determination to prevail and thrive, demonstrated also on the battlefield, time and again, finally convinced its largest Arab foe of the wisdom of concluding peace in 1979 and Jordan followed suit in 1994, in the wake of the 1993 rapprochement with the Palestinians. The Peace Process already proven beneficial to both sides, economically and diplomatically, has dangerously slowed down given the watershed assassination of Prime Minister Rabin who suffered the fate of martyred President Sadat, acts of wanton terrorism against Israelis, and the election into power of Prime Minister Netanyahu who represents a different ideological bent from that of his predecessor in office. However, the Peace Process is bound to eventually gather momentum and actively involve the essential partnerships of Syria and Lebanon in an irreversible historical movement to advance the families of the region exposed to the threat of Fundamentalism and the likes of Saddam

Hussein, toward a future free from the stranglehold of bloodshed, ignorance, prejudice and poverty. The role of the United States, the sole left superpower, as broker, in the unfolding destiny of the Middle East, remains of critical importance. It has stood by Israel, its trusted and faithful friend and ally, in times of war and in search for peace, continuing to be a beacon of hope at the crossroads of historic change and uncertainty with both opportunity and risk. American Jewry being a pivotal position, has been entrusted to serve as a proud bridge, connecting a mighty nation and a small but enduring people, bound together by a common yearning to hallow the human experience and consecrate the divine gift of life.

HONORING THE HONORABLE FRED LIPPMAN UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of a respected and admired public servant from Florida: The Honorable Fred Lippman. Representative Lippman announced recently his retirement from the Florida House of Representatives.

Representative Fred Lippman, who represents most of Hollywood and parts of Hallandale Beach, has been a member of the Florida Legislature since 1978. After attending the Graduate School of Pharmacy at Columbia University in New York, Representative Lippman moved to South Florida and opened several pharmacies. It was at this time that he became active in community affairs. For two decades as a public servant Representative Lippman has fought for legislation to protect children, senior citizens, and to improve Florida's health care systems.

Representative Lippman was vital in the effort to pass the country's first laws to mandate the use of child-safety seats; the design of Healthy Kids health insurance program for children; and revising Florida's child abuse laws. The Lippman Family Center and the Lippman Shelter, both in Broward County, were named after Representative Lippman in honor of his work on behalf of Florida's troubled youth and families. Representative Lippman's efforts to provide care for Florida's needy children and adults have earned him numerous awards and honors from organizations such as the American Lung Association, American Jewish Congress, Florida's teachers, professional firefighters, children's advocates, Chambers of Commerce, public health providers, Jaycees, and many others.

I believe Representative Lippman leaves the state house with the knowledge that Florida is better for him having served. I thank him today for his work.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES J. VERLOTTE

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great citizen of Pennsylvania, James

J. Verlotte. James Verlotte retired on June 30, 1997, after forty-three years of service to the Mohawk Area School District.

Jim Verlotte began his service as an educator in 1954. Over the next four decades, he made an impact on the lives of so many young people in Lawrence County. In addition to his career as an elementary school principal, Jim took the time to make a difference in other areas of the state and local community. He has been a member of the Pennsylvania Association of Elementary Principals, the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators, and the Pennsylvania Association of Federal Program Coordinators. At the local level, Jim Verlotte has served as the Assistant Director of the Lawrence County GED Test Center and is an active volunteer at St. Anthony's Church in Bessemer.

His commitment to his career in education is rivaled only by his commitment to the children of Pennsylvania. James Verlotte has earned the respect among his peers that can only be achieved after a lifetime of service to others. He has touched the lives of a great number of people, both young and old, throughout his years as an educator and fellow citizen.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking James J. Verlotte for his years of service. We wish you the best in your retirement. Thank you.

TRIBUTE TO LEN SHERRY

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute Mr. Len Sherry of Danvers, Massachusetts who is retiring from the town's Housing Authority Board after more than 20 years of devoted service, having served 14 years as its Chairman.

During his tenure on the Housing Authority Board, Mr. Sherry was a leader in persuading the community at large of its obligation to provide much needed support for housing programs, and his efforts resulted in the addition of elderly and family units to Danvers' housing stock. Mr. Sherry was also instrumental in the expansion of rental assistance and community-residence programs.

Those who worked at and were served by the Danvers Housing Authority were not the only ones to benefit from Mr. Sherry's community spirit. He was also a Town-meeting member, school committeeman, Little League coach and Sunday school teacher. He used his skills as a communicator to promote partnerships within the community that served to better the lives of everyone. Very few, if any, people in Danvers have not been touched in some way by Len Sherry.

Indeed, Mr. Sherry has been an inspiration to his friends and family. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand here to recognize the accomplishments of Len Sherry; his dedication to the Town of Danvers is to be commended. I hope my colleagues will join with me today in wishing Mr. Sherry the very best as he begins his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN RYLAND EDWARDS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I wish to say a few words in tribute to John Ryland Edwards, a superb soldier and educator, who is retiring after 22 years of service to Wentworth Military Academy.

Born in Lexington, MO, John Edwards graduated from the University of Missouri with a BS in Education. In 1955, he became a teacher and coach at Henrietta, MO, High School, but joined the United States Army one year later. From 1956 to 1976, Mr. Edwards served his country in the U.S. Army while stationed in Texas, Alaska, Colorado, Indiana, Washington, DC, Vietnam, and Okinawa. During his tenure in the Army, he worked as an Adjutant General Corps Sports Director, an Assistant Army Service Officer, a Special Service Officer, an Administrative Officer, a Recreational Services Officer, an Adjutant General, the Director of Armed Forces Professional Entertainment Office, Army Project Officer for the Presidential Reception honoring Vietnam veterans, Director of U.S. Army Sports Program, Officer in Charge of U.S. Armed Forces basketball team, and the Army Representative to the 1976 Olympics. John Edwards retired from active duty in 1976, with the Legion of Merit award, a Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Following his active duty career, John Edwards moved back to his hometown of Lexington, MO, to serve at Wentworth Military Academy. During his 22-year tenure at Wentworth, John served as Operations Officer, Special Events Coordinator, Project Officer, Athletic Director and basketball coach, Alumni Director, Adult Education Director, and Interim Superintendent. John has provided superior leadership at Wentworth, and has worked with every department on campus. He served as the man behind the scenes who made every event work with precision.

In addition to his military career, John Edwards has participated in many community activities. He is a member of the Lexington, MO, Lions Club, Lafayette Regional Health Center Board of Trustees, Lexington Area Chamber of Commerce Board (serving as President for one term), Lafayette County Health Department Board, and Member of Turners. He has received the Melvin Jones Fellow Award and Lion of the Year Award, as well as the Lexington Outstanding Leadership Award.

Mr. Speaker, I am certain that my colleagues will join me in paying tribute to John Ryland Edwards, an outstanding Missourian. His career in the United States Army and at Wentworth Military Academy, combined with superb community service, make him a role model for young military and civic leaders.

TRIBUTE TO WALTER HOFFMAN

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention Walter Hoffman of Wayne, New Jersey, who is being honored by the Wayne Democratic Organization.

Walt was born in Newark, New Jersey on December 21, 1924. He was raised in Glen Ridge and East Orange, and was active in scouting activities, including Assistant Scout Master and Explorer Adviser. Walt was also co-captain of his high school's track team.

Walt is a Marine Corps veteran, having served his country during World War II in the Pacific Theatre of Operations from 1943 to 1946. Upon leaving the Marines, Walt attended the University of Michigan where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science in 1948. Pursuing a career in law, he attended the University of Chicago Law School and earned his J.D. in 1950. He was also Associate Editor of the law school's Law Review.

Walt has an accomplished and distinguished career in both law and public service. He was a trial attorney for the National Labor Relations Board in 1951 and a staff attorney for the House Ways and Means Subcommittee Investigating Administration of Internal Revenue Laws from 1951-52. From 1955 to 1985, Walt sought out the private practice of law and was a senior partner in his own firm for 26 of those years. During this time, however, he still remained active in public matters. Walt served as Chair of the Arms Control and Disarmament Committee and Vice-Chair of the International Courts Committee from 1974-78. He was founder and Executive Vice-President of the Campaign for United Nations Reform from 1975-91 and Executive Director and Executive Vice-President of the World Federalist Association from 1985-93. Walt also was appointed by House Speaker Thomas Foley to the United States Commission on Improving the Effectiveness of the United Nations, serving from 1992-93, Chair of the International Organizations Interest Group from 1995-96, and President of the Center for U.N. Reform Education from 1993-96.

In addition to his vast experience in governmental affairs, Walt also has a strong teaching background. He has taught courses on Political Science, American Government, Political Theory, and Law at such institutions as William Paterson College and Ramapo College. Currently he is an Adjunct Professor of American and International Studies at both Ramapo College and William Paterson University. Walt is also serving as Legal Counsel to the World Federalist Association and Treasurer of the Center for U.N. Reform Education.

Walt has also been active politically, having served as Councilman for the Township of Wayne from 1964-71. He was also a Democratic candidate for Mayor in Wayne as well as the State Assembly, and served in numerous capacities for Presidential candidates Eugene McCarthy and Norman Cousins.

Walt is married to the former Lois Johnson, and together they will celebrate their 50th

Wedding Anniversary this June. They have three adult children: Anne Ferruggio, who is Minister of St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Allentown, PA; Laura Calixte, who is the Chief Window Clerk at the Pequannock Post Office; and Charles Hoffman, who is a mortgage banker with Northwest Mortgage Company. Walt and Lois also have three grandchildren: Sylvianne Calixte, who is a student at William Paterson and Raymond and Gregory Hoffman, who are in the 4th and 1st grades respectively, in Havertown, PA.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Walt's family and friends, and the Township of Wayne in recognizing Walter Hoffman's many outstanding and invaluable contributions to our society as he is being honored this evening by the Wayne Democratic Organization.

HONORING THE HONORABLE JACK TOBIN UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of a respected and admired public servant from Florida: The Honorable Jack Tobin. Representative Tobin recently announced his retirement from the Florida House of Representatives.

Representative Tobin, who represents parts of Broward County, has served in the state legislature since 1983. During his sixteen years in the legislature and another four as a city official and Mayor in Margate, Representative Tobin has carved out a reputation as a strong consumer advocate. His legislation has protected car buyers, cracked down on fraudulent telemarketers, and protected travelers from travel agencies that go out of business. Representative Tobin was also a champion of issues important to older Americans such as Alzheimer's patient care and Medicare protection. Most important to Representative Tobin were his efforts on the Clean Indoor Air Act, the Foster Care Statute and the Major Telecommunications Acts of 1989 and 1996.

Representative Tobin has enjoyed his 20 years in public service and although he will be entering the business world, and will no longer be a public official, I know he will continue serving the people of Broward County and Florida as ably as ever.

TRIBAL TRUST FUND SETTLEMENT ACT OF 1998

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing, by request, the Tribal Trust Fund Settlement Act of 1998. This legislation sets up a process through which Indian Tribes could enter into negotiations with the Department of Interior in order to agree on account balances for some 1,500 trust fund accounts held in trust by the United States.

Since the early 1900's the Department of Interior has managed funds derived from land resources for Indian tribes and individual Indians. These funds have been badly mismanaged and the Department cannot verify account balances. After a 5-year and \$21 million attempt to reconcile accounts, it became clear that because of the volume of missing documents, reconciliation would be impossible.

This legislation is a good step in the right direction by admitting mistakes and moving forward to clean up the problems of tribal trust fund accounts. Under the legislation, the Department of Interior would make an offer to settle each tribal account. If the offer is rejected, both parties would enter into informal dispute resolution in order to try to come to agreement without the cost and time incurred by litigation. If agreement cannot be reached, tribes would be free to pursue recourse through court action. I am hopeful that we can reach some agreement during the legislative process that provides tribes with a guarantee that if they choose to go to court, they will have swift access to the courts.

Settlement funds agreed to under this legislation would come from the judgment fund made available for judgments against the United States and not from the already strapped tribal programs in the Interior Department. I commend Secretary Babbitt for his diligent work and commitment and hope hearings will be held immediately so that we may hear from the affected Indian tribes on this proposal.

IN MEMORY OF CONGRESSMAN STEVE SCHIFF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I want to join my colleagues today in honoring our colleague, Congressman Steve Schiff of New Mexico.

Steve was a friend to me and many others in this chamber. His down-to-earth manner and conscientious approach to Congressional service were welcome attributes to this body. He fought his illness courageously, never allowing it to interfere with his friendships or his devotion to the issues he cared about.

I had the privilege of traveling to the Middle East with Steve Schiff during the Persian Gulf crisis of 1991. We shared stories and common perceptions about how difficult it will be to achieve a lasting peace in such a complex and varied region. He was a thoughtful, intelligent companion and I am sure his constituents will miss his service as much as I will miss his friendship.

At a time when the public is looking for leadership and understanding from its elected officials, Steve Schiff was a model. He conducted himself with a quiet grace, even when his illness took a fatal turn. I know my colleagues will join me in marking his contributions to this House, his civility and his friendship. We will miss his service very much.

MEDICARE PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL PROSPECTIVE PAYMENT SYSTEM ACT OF 1998

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to join my colleague JIM MCCRERY in introducing the Medicare Psychiatric Facility Payment Reform Act of 1998. This legislation would improve care provided to Medicare beneficiaries by reforming how Medicare pays for services in free-standing psychiatric hospitals and distinct-part psychiatric units of general hospitals. Our bill proposes to move psychiatric facilities to a prospective payment system (PPS) while phasing in substantial reductions in payments to these providers as required by the Balanced Budget Act (BBA) of 1997. Currently psychiatric hospitals and units are exempt from PPS and their costs are reimbursed under provisions in the 1982 Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act, or TEFRA.

Because last year's cuts were so deep and sudden, with no transition period to allow psychiatric facilities to adapt to the changes, I am concerned that patient care will be jeopardized. Clearly something needs to be done. Our proposal provides a workable solution. It joins psychiatric facilities with other providers in the Medicare program that are paid on a prospective basis, a reimbursement system that will be more efficient, allow for better planning, and lead to improved patient care. Our bill also ensures that, in the interim, inpatient psychiatric care is not compromised or disrupted because of precipitous budget reductions.

I urge my colleagues to join me in co-sponsoring this important piece of legislation.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM McLUCAS, DIRECTOR OF ENFORCEMENT, U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and privilege today to commemorate the career of a remarkable public servant.

Bill McLucas, the Director of Enforcement at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, will soon be leaving his important post after twenty-two years of distinguished service to his country with eight of those years as this country's chief securities enforcer.

The Enforcement Division protects the nation's investors by uncovering and prosecuting fraud in our financial markets. Under Bill's leadership, the SEC's Enforcement Division has secured its place as one of the crown jewels in the country's ongoing efforts to combat white collar crime. Tens of millions of investors have benefited from Bill's fierce commitment to fighting fraud.

In 1995, Bill gave a speech in San Diego warning the municipal market that the SEC

was planning to "tack a few hides to the shed door"—a remark for which he was teased and criticized for years afterwards. However, I come to the House Floor to praise him. His remarks were dead on the mark.

Pensioners, retirees, widows with insurance proceeds, parents trying to help their kid pay for college, couples saving for their first home—these are the people Bill McLucas thinks about and works for every day. And, Bill has done the right thing for the right reasons for a very long time.

His remarkable record of accomplishment includes: the unprecedented resolution of the Prudential limited partnership scandal; the vigorous prosecution of insider traders on Wall Street who abused their positions of trust; the complex actions against major firms that helped rig auctions for government securities; and the discovery of abuses on NASDAQ that for many years harmed investors in the over-the-counter market.

Though his Division seems always to have had limited resources, Bill seems always to have found a way to bring small scale frauds to justice as well.

Although he is moving on, Bill has left an indelible mark on the SEC and the Enforcement Division that should last for generations. His integrity, decency, commitment to fair play, and inherent sense of justice have made an extraordinary contribution to the success of our markets—success that can't be measured on a profit and loss statement or a balance sheet. We owe him our profound thanks.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS E. HARDY
AND ANN CESTARO

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention Thomas E. Hardy of Prospect Park, New Jersey and Ann Cestaro of Totowa, New Jersey. Tom and Ann were honored at the Passaic Valley Elks Lodge 2111 Awards Dinner.

Tom was born on December 16, 1947 in Paterson, New Jersey. As a resident of Paterson, he attended the local public schools, including P.S. No. 5 and Central High School, where he graduated in 1965. Upon graduating from high school, Tom was drafted into the United States Navy and served his country with honor.

As an Aviation Gunners Mate, 2nd Class during the Vietnam War, Tom received numerous medals and commendations, including the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Navy Unit Commendation, and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Korea). He was honorably discharged in 1970.

After leaving the U.S. Navy, Tom decided to further his education. He attended Southwestern College from 1970 to 1972, earning an Associate's degree in Finance. From 1973 to 1976, he attended San Diego State, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance. Upon graduating from San Diego State, Tom then attended Florida State, and in 1980 earned an M.B.A. degree in Finance.

During the years 1970 to 1982, he worked for Martin Marietta, in both California and Florida. Starting out as a senior buyer, Tom worked his way up to become chief of procurement, responsible for purchasing and establishing out-of-town representation for the company. In 1982, Tom came back to New Jersey and was employed by the Kearfott Guidance and Navigation Corporation. As a senior buyer, he was responsible for contracts relating to computer hardware and software, as well as government contracts. Tom also was responsible for the inspection of facilities, production ability, and financial worthiness of all sub-contractors utilizing company and customer personnel. In 1994, Tom was employed as a senior buyer by DRS Military Systems of Oakland. He was responsible for the procurement of materials for the ASVS program, and operating on strict budget, was able to save the company more than \$265,000.

Tom was a Scout Master from 1986 to 1989 for BSA Troop 2, St. Paul's Church, Prospect Park. He is a member of V.F.W. Post 5084, Elmwood Park and has been a member of the Passaic Valley Elks Lodge since 1991. As an active member of the Elks, Tom has served as Memorial Service Chairman, Parade Chairman, Charity Ball Chairman, and Flag Chairman. He is also the Lodge's Past President and Exalted Ruler.

Ann Cestaro is a resident of Totowa, having lived there for 40 years. Having been married for 33 years, she has three married daughters and three grandchildren. She is employed by Cestaro's Furniture Refinishing, a 25 year-old family-owned business.

Ann is a member of the Passaic Valley Elks Lodge Ladies Auxiliary for 30 years. She has served twice as President and in many other capacities. She is also active with the Veterans Committee and the Handicapped Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Tom and Ann's family and friends, and the members of the Passaic Valley Elks Lodge 2111 in recognizing the many outstanding and invaluable contributions Thomas E. Hardy and Ann Cestaro have made to our community.

HONORING THE HONORABLE
DEBBIE HORAN UPON HER RE-
TIREMENT

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of a respected and admired public servant from Florida: The Honorable Debbie Horan. Representative Horan recently announced her retirement from the Florida House of Representatives.

Representative Horan, of Key West, was first elected in 1994 at the young age of 31. While serving in the state house she has made education her top priority. For her efforts to improve education in Florida, Representative Horan was named Legislator of the Year by the Florida Association of District School Superintendents, as well as the Florida School

Boards Association. Representative Horan was also recognized as the Outstanding Young Floridian by the Florida Jaycees.

For Representative Horan, her service to the people in Key West has been a great honor and a tremendous opportunity to be an advocate for better education in Florida. Although Representative Horan is leaving to spend more time with her two young daughters, Lindsey and Kelsey, I hope she will one day return to public service. She will be missed.

"MY VOICE IN OUR DEMOCRACY"

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker. I remember from my own High School days the benefit I gained from participating in the Voice of Democracy contest, and I am therefore particularly pleased to share here with our colleagues the winning Massachusetts entry in the 1997-1998 VFW Voice of Democracy scriptwriting competition.

The winner, Leah Makuch, did an excellent job of expressing her understanding of the democratic system in which we Americans are fortunate enough to live. I am sometimes disappointed that more teenagers do not take advantage of the opportunities which our democratic system offers them, and thus I was particularly pleased to read Leah Makuch's excellent exposition on this subject, and I am for this reason very happy to have a chance to make it widely available.

"MY VOICE IN OUR DEMOCRACY"

1997-98 VFW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY SCHOLARSHIP
COMPETITION MASSACHUSETTS WINNER

(By Leah Makuch)

So many parts of this world are silent. So many people are silenced by governments afraid of the power of speech, afraid of the people they seek to control. They use their governmental power against the members of their own country.

On the contrary, I live where I am allowed to speak, encouraged to speak, even required to speak by my human responsibilities. I live in a country of loud voices shouting their opinions, in a country where this is expected. I live in a democracy, and my voice counts.

On the literal level, my voice is rather quiet. Yet I have the power to speak loudly and firmly, to shout my beliefs unto listening ears. My words reverberate through the great Rocky mountains and are projected over the marquee in Times Square, carried along every television network and telephone line, even electronically transmitted to millions of computers all over America. When I choose not to buy a particular product because its manufacturer endorses something I oppose, I am speaking my message to this manufacturer. When I petition against a congressional bill, I speak my opposition loudly and clearly. And although I cannot legally vote, my voice is heard through the votes of my parents and family members. I am a member of a democracy, and it is my responsibility to make myself heard.

Here I stand, right now, on the soapbox of this cassette tape, confident that when I speak about democracy, someone is listening. The ears upon which my words fall are

not deaf to my message. I am being listened to at this very moment, and my voice as an American, as a member of a democracy, is respected as being worth hearing. For this reason, if for no other, I should speak. I should speak, I must speak, for that which I believe in and against that which I oppose, because in my heart I know that someone will hear my words. I live in a great democratic puzzle, and my piece fits where no other can. I am not excluded because I am young. I am included because I am worth listening to.

The American Heritage Dictionary defines democracy as "the common people, considered as the primary source of political power." I am a member of this common people, this source of power. What other united, non-democratic peoples would not scoff at my words proclaiming myself as such? This democracy in which I live sees me as this, however. This democracy recognizes my voice as a consumer, future voter, a thinker, and, most importantly of all, as a human being.

As a human being, I have been granted inalienable rights, most notably the rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Primarily, my right to life. Is my life complete, if I have no say in how it is led? Therefore, my voice is a central part of my right to life. I have the right to liberty. This liberty is a liberty of the mind, heart, and soul, a liberty to make my wishes known and live in fear of being persecuted. My voice is my liberty. I have the right to the pursuit of happiness. I have the right to seek out that which makes me happy and support it with the God-given voice inside of me. My voice is the means by which I can pursue my happiness. Therefore, with my voice being a central theme in my rights as a human being, I have four primary inalienable rights: life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, and the voice by which to fulfill these. My voice is my right as a human being.

On face value, it sounds like a right that can be taken lightly. Freedom of speech. This first amendment should read: "responsibility of speech." I have the right and the responsibility to speak in support of goodness and truth, to speak for those who have no voices.

By these standards, who would oppose this democracy? Who would oppose a family of people with voices, who exercise their natural rights and speak directly to their government for the good of all? My voice in our democracy speaks loudly, and with the same weight as all other voices carry, whether they belong to bodies older, younger, or of a different color than my own. It baffles me why so many people have no pressing desire to become a citizen of this fine democracy. The chance to have a voice in one's own country, to influence the world with what one has to say, is a powerful opportunity. Presented to many countries of the world, this tantalizing chance would be fought for like it was at our country's birth, when the first Americans would not let their voices go unheard. How fortunate to live in a country where lives are not lost searching for their voices!

I am lucky to live in such a democracy. I am fortunate to be able to speak without fear of persecution, to voice my message to the world. So many voiceless people do not have this chance. And as I speak on the importance of my voice and the voice of others, I have already made the first step . . . and I am being heard.

SUNSHINE IN THE COURTROOM

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1252) to modify the procedures of the Federal courts in certain matters, and for other purposes:

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Chairman, I am strongly opposed to H.R. 1252, the Judicial Reform Act, but would like to say a few words about one provision of the bill that merits strong bipartisan support.

I refer to Section 8 of the bill, which would allow Federal appellate judges, in their sole discretion, to permit televised transmission of court proceedings. It would also allow Federal district court judges to permit televised proceedings on a three-year experimental basis.

Americans have always taken a strong interest in the workings of the justice system. Yet those who have had little direct exposure to the process derive their impressions largely from fictional courtroom dramas and sensational coverage of high-profile trials. It is little wonder that many lack a proper understanding of the process by which justice is meted out in our society, and hold in scant regard the judicial officers upon whom the integrity of that process depends.

Cameras in the courtroom offer the public an alternative: an unfiltered, unedited, unvarnished glimpse of the judicial process as it really is. Like C-SPAN, which enables viewers to interpret legislative proceedings for themselves, free of intrusive commentary, televised trials allow viewers to make their own judgments regarding the fairness of the judge, the competence of counsel, the credibility of witnesses, and the quality of the evidence presented. Through first-hand observation, the average citizen can develop a greater respect for the requirements of due process, and a fuller appreciation of the importance of an independent judiciary in preserving the rule of law.

The 48 states that permit broadcast coverage of court proceedings have also found that the presence of cameras has a salutary effect on the proceedings themselves, exposing the trial process to public scrutiny and encouraging fair play, professionalism and decorum. Even judges who were hesitant to authorize television coverage have generally found the experience to be a positive one. Concerns that the media would detract from the solemnity of the proceedings and would violate the sensibilities of the participants have generally proven to be unfounded.

As a district attorney, I strongly supported the introduction of cameras into Massachusetts courtrooms, and chose to participate in the pilot program which Massachusetts undertook in the 1980s. In fact, I prosecuted the first case to go to trial under the program in 1980. The Massachusetts experiment was an enormous success, and led to the adoption of a court rule instructing judges to permit electronic coverage of public proceedings, subject to various limitations designed to ensure fair-

ness to the parties and to safeguard the integrity of the proceedings.

From 1991-93, the Judicial Conference of the United States conducted a pilot program in six U.S. district courts and two U.S. courts of appeals which yielded similar results. A 1994 evaluation by the Federal Judicial Center concluded that cameras should be permitted in all Federal civil proceedings.

Naturally, there are some cases in which trial participants have an overriding need for anonymity, and in such cases the judge must have the discretion to bar cameras from the courtroom. Some 15 years after that first televised trial, I was the prosecutor in a highly publicized trial involving the murder of two women at a family planning clinic. In order to protect the victims' families and witnesses who were clinic patients and employees, I filed a motion asking the court to exercise its discretion to exclude cameras from the trial. The judge granted our motion based on the special circumstances of the case.

The bill provides for such situations by giving Federal judges unfettered discretion to exclude cameras at any time and for any reason.

Mr. Chairman, an educated and informed citizenry is essential to a healthy, functioning democracy. This measure will enhance public understanding of a central pillar of our democracy, and deserves our support. While I regret that it was attached to a highly controversial bill whose other provisions I could not support, I very much hope that it can be included elsewhere on our legislative agenda.

HONORING ANTHONY HARRIS ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF STONEY'S RESTAURANT

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very dear friend, Anthony Harris and a Washington, D.C. restaurant institution. On Friday, May 1, 1998 Anthony "Boss of the Sauce" Harris will celebrate the 30th Anniversary of Stoney's Restaurant.

Located at 1307 L Street in Northwest Washington, DC, Stoney's has faithfully served its clientele, 365 days a year. Over the last 30 years there have been many changes in Washington, but one thing that has remained the same is Stoney's. Whether you are there for the half priced burgers, chopped salads, or simply the conversation, Tony and his staff do not disappoint. The food at Stoney's is tremendous, the service friendly and the atmosphere is genuine. Stoney's has a familiar Pittsburgh aura, the kind of place where you always feel at home.

I applaud Anthony Harris for his hard work and dedication. His success and commitment are one that few in this fine city can claim. It is with great pride that I rise before you and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Stoney's on their 30th Anniversary. I wish Anthony Harris, Mo, Sandy and all of the employees at Stoney's the best of luck for thirty more years of success.

TRIBUTE TO THE LINCOLN FIRE COMPANY

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the momentous occasion of the 90th Anniversary of the Borough of Totowa's Lincoln Fire Company.

The Lincoln Fire Company was formed in 1908 by a group of civic minded citizens who met at the Willard Park Hotel. The corporation papers were filed and recorded on April 23, 1908. In that same month the governing body of the Borough passed an ordinance that established the Borough of Totowa Fire Department and included the Lincoln Fire Company as one of two companies in the Borough. In July of that same year a committee was appointed for the election of a chief and assistant chief. The first elected Chief was George McCrea and the first Assistant Chief Thomas Dunkerly.

In the early years of the Company the engine was attached to passing wagons to get it to a fire. The engine carried fire pails, ladders, lanterns, hose and the firefighters' gear. Alarms were sounded by striking large steel gongs with hammers made available to citizens located in strategic areas. Whenever available, citizens who owned horses would bring them to the fire house, hitch them to the apparatus and bring it to the fire scene. For this favor a citizen was paid the sum of \$2.00.

Lincoln's headquarters have been located in what is now known as the "Old Borough Hall" since it acquired space on the ground floor of the building on Lincoln Avenue somewhere around 1910. The front part of the building housed the apparatus and the rear section of the building provided space for the Company members to hold their meetings. Additional space was acquired when the Police Department moved to the new municipal building in 1969. The meeting room has been completely remodeled and now serves as a place to hold social functions as well as meetings.

Through the years Lincoln has had a number of different fire trucks. Present members recall a Reo, a 1937 Ford '85, a 1950 Mack and the present 1967 Mack Thermodyne. All of these units were pumpers. Prior to the 20's it appears that the Company was equipped with horse hand-drawn chemical apparatus.

Active membership has averaged between twenty-five and thirty members in recent years. Membership also includes Junior Members, Social Members, Honorary Members and Life Members. The members and their families gather several times a year to celebrate special occasions such as the installation of officers, St. Patrick's Day, Halloween and the traditional Christmas Party at which the members' children and grandchildren are paid a visit by Santa Claus.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, and the Borough of Totowa in recognizing the many outstanding and invaluable contributions the members of the Lincoln Fire Company provide to the public safety of our citizens. On this the 90th Anniversary of the Lincoln Fire Company, the members take

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

great pride in providing volunteer fire service on a round-the-clock basis, 365 days a year, to Borough residents. In the future, as in the past and present Lincoln will continue to be the "First, Last and Always."

CONGRATULATING DR. ABRAHAM S. FISCHLER

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary achievements in education, public service, and leadership of Dr. Abraham S. Fischler, and to extend my sincere congratulations to him on his retirement from a long and distinguished career.

Abe is a long-time personal friend whom I admire for his vision and his commitment to serving South Florida in many capacities. He was President of Nova Southeastern University, in Fort Lauderdale, from 1970 to 1992 and currently serves as President Emeritus and University Professor. He is a member and past Chair of the Broward County School Board and is a past state-wide appointee to the Florida Education Foundation. In addition, Abe has served on the Chambers of Commerce for Fort Lauderdale, Hollywood, and Davie/Cooper City. His leadership with the Hollywood Medical Center, United Way, Southeast Florida-Holocaust Memorial Center, and Overall Economic Development Committee has been a vital asset to South Florida.

Upon earning his doctorate in education from Columbia University, Abe accepted professorships at both Harvard University's Graduate School of Education and the University of California at Berkeley. He has been awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws from Nova University and several national honors for his leadership in science, education, and humanitarian involvements. Abe has served as a consultant to the Ford Foundation, various state departments of education, and school districts throughout the United States in addition to publishing several books, text books and numerous articles in professional journals and newspapers nationwide.

HIGHER EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to extend the authorization of programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes:

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the Lazio-Gilman-Tauscher amendment to H.R. 6, the Higher Education Act. This amendment will provide loan forgiveness for full time child care providers across the country.

April 30, 1998

The combination of skyrocketing college tuition costs and the drastically low average salary of child care providers often prevents the most qualified college graduates from pursuing careers in child care. The average child care worker earns about \$12,000 a year while the average outstanding loan total for a college graduate ranges between \$11,000 and \$14,000, depending on geographic location. New graduates cannot afford to work in a day care center with these types of loans looming over them, and many look to teaching and other professions that give them the opportunity to earn more money.

Those who do choose to work in a day care setting quickly discover that they cannot continue to work in centers, and use their positions to help catapult them into full time teaching positions in public and private schools.

This amendment will give child care workers the incentive to remain in the child care field and will provide a similar loan forgiveness to the program already in effect for teachers, doctors and Peace Corps volunteers. This amendment provides incentives that encourage stable, highly educated, and better trained staff members in America's child care facilities. Additionally, the program is designed so that the loan forgiveness is directly related to the number of years of service in child care thus ensuring stability and continuity of providers at day care centers.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting the Lazio-Gilman-Tauscher amendment in helping to provide assistance to child care workers and to ensure that our Nation's children are being cared for by trained staff in day care centers across America.

THE RETIREMENT OF HEINZ POLL FROM THE OHIO BALLET

HON. THOMAS C. SAWYER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise one of the best teachers that I have ever known. The classroom has not been his stage. Rather the stage has been his classroom.

Heinz Poll, the founding artistic director of Ohio Ballet, taught choreography to dancers; he taught dance to an audience that expanded from Akron, to the Northeast Ohio region, then nationally and internationally; and he taught everyone in the dance world that the province of ballet is not solely New York and Paris.

I know it seemed improbable to many of us in Akron, Ohio, 30 years ago when Poll founded the precursor Chamber Ballet, that this company would become a national asset. But Heinz Poll's vision and drive soon made it evident that what was Akron's treasure could be shared with the world.

We are grateful that Heinz Poll will be leaving to his dancers many of his works. He has also spent his last years with the Ohio Ballet setting the stage for those who follow in his steps. They will be hard to fill.

I ask that Monday's article from the Cleveland Plain Dealer detailing Mr. Poll's work be included in the RECORD.

HEINZ POLL TO RETIRE FROM OHIO BALLET
[From the Cleveland Plain Dealer, Monday,
Apr. 27, 1998]

By Wilma Salisbury

Heinz Poll, founding artistic director of Ohio Ballet, will step down next spring after 31 years at the helm of Akron's nationally renowned dance company. He announced his retirement Saturday before the final performance of the company's 30th anniversary season at the Ohio Theatre in Playhouse Square.

"This is the right time," he said. "I can help the company in transition. It's much better if it's a slow transition. I'll be around to help if they wish so."

Poll, 72, said he has spent two years working on strategic plans for the company's future. Board president D. Lee Tobler said the trustees are dedicated to protecting Poll's legacy.

"Heinz's contribution to the world of dance is truly remarkable," Tobler said. "His work is full of life and true artistry. He has created an outstanding national as well as regional company which will be perpetuated in the coming years."

Tobler will head a committee of board members that will launch a national search for Poll's successor.

The new artistic director is expected to be in place by January. Poll will stay on until the end of the 1998-99 season.

"They will want someone who appreciates Heinz's vision and will keep his major works alive. I don't think anyone is looking for a big change," said associate director Barbara Schubert, longtime trustee and a member of the search committee.

Staff members realize, however, that it will not be easy for someone else to fill Poll's shoes.

"Most people came to see Heinz's company," said artistic administrator Jane Startzman, a former Ohio Ballet dancer. "It's going to be a whole different thing. There will be a new artistic director with his own vision."

The announcement of Poll's retirement comes at a time of transition for Ohio Ballet. General manager Howard Parr left the company two weeks ago to take a position with Akron Civic Theatre. A new general manager has been selected and will be announced this week. Eleven members of the company will not return next season. But six dancers and two key members of the artistic staff—ballet master Richard Dickinson and rehearsal assistant David Shimotakahara—will stay.

Poll has hired nine new dancers and two apprentices for the 1998-99 season. They will begin rehearsals in June for the company's annual Summer Festival.

"The new dancers coming in are strong people. I'm eager to work with them," Poll said.

Born in Germany and trained at the famed Folkwang School, Poll started his international career with German ballet companies, then worked for 11 years with the National Ballet of Chile. He spent two years with a French ballet company before coming to the United States to perform, choreograph and teach.

An invitation to teach in Akron led to the founding of the Chamber Ballet, the eight-member student company that developed into Ohio Ballet. The company made its debut in 1968 dancing Poll's "Elegiac Song," an anti-war ballet that was lighted by Thomas R. Skelton, the internationally renowned lighting designer who served as the company's associate director until his death in 1994.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Over the last 30 years, Poll has choreographed more than 60 works for Ohio Ballet. To make his work available after his retirement, he has willed 17 of his best ballets to 10 past and present members of the company.

"These dancers have given of themselves for so many years. They are faithful to the company. They deserve something," Poll said. "They should earn the money from the ballets. They have not made that much as dancers."

In retirement, Poll plans to divide his time between his farm in northern New Jersey and an apartment in Northeast Ohio. He intends to travel the world, write his memoirs and possibly choreograph new ballets. "If I feel I want to do something, I will propose it here or maybe for another company," he said.

Poll also joked that he has a secret ambition. "I'm going to become a ballet critic," he said.

TRIBUTE TO ARIS AND CAROLYN ANAGNOS

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Carolyn and Aris Anagnos, two pre-eminent philanthropists and community leaders, for their tireless efforts on behalf of Hellenic American causes and human rights and democracy across the world.

For decades, Aris and Carolyn have worked to advance the political, social, educational and cultural interests of the Hellenic American community in Southern California. The Hellenic American Council has given the community an effective voice in domestic and foreign policy, championing freedom and sovereignty in Cyprus, the Aegean and Northern Greece and promoting awareness of Turkish injustices, past and present. The Caloyeras Center for Modern Greek Studies at Loyola Marymount University, the Archbishop Makarios Center of St. Sophia Senior Citizens Residence and a host of other community organizations have benefited from their philanthropy.

This weekend the Friends of Hellenic Studies and the Basil E. Caloyeras Center at Loyola Marymount University are honoring Carolyn and Aris for their years of service to the Hellenic-American community and their exemplary support of Modern Greek Studies at Loyola Marymount. I would like to underscore the importance of supporting Hellenic Studies programs and the teaching of Modern Greek history, culture and language in our universities.

In addition to being great Hellenes, Carolyn and Aris are great democrats and humanitarians. It is not incidental that those who uphold the Hellenic ideals of democracy would be champions of peace, human rights and civil liberties, both here in the United States and abroad. As board members and executive officers of the American Civil Liberties Union and the Southern California Americans for Democratic Action, Aris and Carolyn have worked to promote democracy and human rights in all parts of the world.

Mr. Speaker, we owe a debt of gratitude to Carolyn and Aris for their dedication and their humanity.

TRIBUTE TO THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF "THE EMERALDS"

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the momentous occasion of the 40th Anniversary of "The Emeralds", greater Paterson, New Jersey's premier rock and roll band.

"The Emeralds" got their start in 1958. George Gerro and Joe Zisa met one day on a city bus while on their way to high school. As they spoke with one another, they realized they shared a common bond: music! George played guitar with the early inception of "The Emeralds" while Joe sang and played the saxophone with other local musicians. George took down Joe's number and promised to call if he ever needed a saxophone player. Within time that phone call came and the rest is history.

"The Emeralds" now consisted of George on Guitar, Joe on vocals and saxophone, Charlie Lombardo on bass, and Jack Sliker on drums. The band rehearsed diligently in George's garage at 205 Emerson Avenue in Paterson. Performing many of the current hits of the day, "The Emeralds" were quickly booked to play school dances and one Saturday a month the John Raad American Legion Post in south Paterson. No matter where you went, be it St. Mary's C.Y.O., Central High School, or the Lincoln Club on West Broadway, "The Emeralds" were there!

In 1960, "Lightning" Lenny Conforti, Joe's best friend, joined the group on drums replacing Jack Sliker who had joined the Army. The band also added Bernie LaPorta from Central High on guitar. During the 1960s the band members paid their dues to "Uncle Sam", but still managed to keep the group together. "The Emerald Experience," as they were now called went through additional lineup changes, with Bernie and Lenny taking an opportunity to go on the road with "The Happenings." They were replaced by Joe Collucci on keyboards, who stayed with the band for three years, and Ron Tattersall on drums, who remained with the band until 1976 when Lenny returned. Bernie came back in 1973.

Nineteen sixty-six was the year that Sal Sellitto became an "Emerald." Returning home from his recent tour of duty in Vietnam, Sal met up with his old friend, Joe Zisa. Knowing of Sal's vocal talents, Joe proposed to the rest of the band that Sal take over on lead vocals. The band was very skeptical at first. But, one night "The Emeralds" were performing at the Four Winds in Verona. The band asked the audience if they would like to hear Sal sing with the group. With some coaxing and encouragement, Sal eventually made his way to the stage and the band promptly broke out into "Expressway To Your Heart." When the song ended, the audience roared its delight and from then on Sal was an official "Emerald."

Celebrating their 25th Anniversary, the band was booked for a big show at the Imperial Manor. For the show, the group added John Lepore on keyboards and he soon became the sixth "Emerald." John had a 14-year tenure with the group until he decided to go on his own; he was then replaced by Joe Shamah. In 1989, Marie Fernandez joined the band and became the first female member of the "Emerald Experience." Marie was a graduate of the Berkeley School of Music and took over on lead vocals and harmonies. After a brief stint with the band, Marie got married and with her husband, moved to Maryland. Replacing her on vocals was Sherry Piero, who had the right chemistry, personality, and above all, a great voice.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, the members (past and present) of the "Emeralds," and their families and friends, in recognizing the many outstanding and invaluable contributions the band has made to not only music history but to the history of New Jersey.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF KSTP-CHANNEL 5

HON. BRUCE VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th Anniversary of the Twin Cities' oldest television station, KSTP-Channel 5. As the first television station in Minnesota and surrounding areas in the Upper Midwest, KSTP holds a special place in Minnesota broadcast history.

Radio pioneer Stanley E. Hubbard launched Channel 5 on April 27, 1948. Over the years, KSTP played a leadership role in shaping news reporting and what was to become modern broadcast journalism. In 1950, KSTP became the first station in the country to offer a 10:00 PM newscast seven days a week. Two years later, KSTP introduced investigative reporting to television news. In 1961, KSTP made history again, by being the first station to go all-color, and in 1974 KSTP introduced electronic news gathering, making film clips a thing of the past. One of the proudest moments for the station was in 1993 when KSTP won a Peabody Award for "Who's Watching the Store?", an investigative report about racially biased security at Carson Pirie Scott department stores. Today the enterprise has flourished with broadcast franchises in several key markets. The pioneer quality of the Hubbard business acumen is evident in the satellite transmission joint venture that is leading the wave of modern communications.

When Stanley E. Hubbard died in 1992, the state of Minnesota mourned the loss of this television pioneer. His legacy, Channel 5, has done Minnesota proud and has been a real trail blazer in television news over the years. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate KSTP on fifty years of journalistic excellence and technical innovation, and offer my best wishes for continued success in the future.

At this time, I would like to share with my colleagues an article highlighting the many

achievements of KSTP from the Minneapolis Star Tribune [April 26, 1998]. I ask the Chair that this article be included in the RECORD with my remarks.

A LOOK BACK AT KSTP

The first 50 years of KSTP-TV have been nothing if not eventful. Here are some of the milestones and defining moments in its history.

April 27, 1948—Twin Cities radio pioneer Stanley E. Hubbard launches Channel 5, the first television station in Minnesota and the surrounding Upper Midwest. First-day programming includes a Minneapolis Millers game from Nicollet Park, a 10-minute evening newscast and "Sunset Valley Barn Dance." KSTP's local version of Nashville's "Grand Ole Opry." The station subsequently becomes the first NBC affiliate not owned by the network.

1950—KSTP becomes the first station in the country to offer a 10 p.m. newscast seven days a week.

1950—KSTP engineers begin a bitter wage-related strike that lasts three years. Station is still nonunion.

1952—KSTP introduces investigative reporting to TV news.

1953—KSTP broadcasts the first color TV program in the Upper Midwest, a Christmas episode of NBC's "Dragnet."

1961—KSTP is the first station in the nation to go all-color.

1967—Stanley S. Hubbard, the founder's son, assumes the KSTP presidency. Stanley E. Hubbard remains Hubbard Broadcasting chairman.

1970—Appalled by anti-war protests at the University of Minnesota and other campuses, KSTP officials announce an on-air campaign to rekindle patriotism and respect for the flag.

1970—Hubbard Broadcasting becomes a client of Frank Magid & Associates, an Iowa firm that consults TV stations and networks about how to make newscasts viewer-friendly.

1971—To combat WCCO-TV's "The Scene Tonight," which has pulled ahead of KSTP's 10 p.m. news, the station introduces "The World Today," with an all-new on-air team: anchor Ted O'Brien, sportscaster Tom Ryther and "peek-a-boo" weatherman Barry ZeVan.

1973—"The World Today" gives way to Eyewitness News."

1974—KSTP introduces electronic news-gathering (ENG), making news "film" obsolete.

1974—With the arrival of new anchorman Ron Magers, a Magid discovery from California, KSTP begins to reassert its dominance over WCC-TV, Channel 4, in news.

1975—KSTP hires the Twin Cities TV's first degreed meteorologist, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee professor Walt Lyons.

1975—KSTP preempts the NBC News special, "A Shooting Gallery Called America," saying it was biased in favor of gun-control proponents and might influence a handgun bill under consideration in the Legislature.

1977—Dave Dahl joins the weather staff.

1979—After 31 years with NBC, KSTP switches affiliation to ABC, which has surged to prime-time prominence on the strength of shows such as "Laverne & Shirley," "Three's Company" and "Charlie's Angels."

1980—Ron Magers leaves KSTP for Chicago's WMAQ-TV.

1982—KSTP launches "Good Company," a daily talk-service show starring Sharon Anderson and Steve Edelman.

1987—KSTP finishes third in the 10 p.m. news competition for the first time.

1990—KSTP introduces "Eyewitness News All-Night," a wee-hours news service.

1992—Stanley E. Hubbard dies.

1993—The station wins a Peabody Award for "Who's Watching the Store?", an investigative report about racially biased security at Carson Pirie Scott department stores.

1994—"Good Company" is replaced by the syndicated "Regis & Kathie Lee."

1998—General manager Ed Piette and news director Scott Libin are hired.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO INCREASE THE AVAILABILITY, AFFORDABILITY, AND QUALITY OF SCHOOL-BASED CHILD CARE PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AGED 0 THROUGH 6 YEARS

HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing legislation which I developed with Representative SNYDER of Arkansas. This bill aims to improve working families' access to affordable, reliable child care. The Education-Child Care Partnership Act earmarks funds within the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) for states to fund Local Education Agencies (LEAs) which choose to provide full-day, year-round school-based child care for children aged 0 to 6.

The Education-Child Care Partnership Act develops a seamless system of early childhood education. Under this legislation, funds would be funneled through the states to LEAs to be used for (1) operation of a qualified school-based child care program, (2) hiring and training child care personnel, (3) construction, expansion, or rehabilitation of facilities for school based child care. Because child care is such a local concern, this bill gives the states and LEAs the maximum flexibility in how they choose to administer the grants made available under this program.

The breakthroughs in research on brain development in the early years of a child's life strongly underscores the need for quality child care. Now is the time to focus our attention on education, and quality health and child care.

Utilizing our existing resources, our schools, for child care can enhance the affordability, accessibility, and quality of child care. School-based care is an accessible alternative of child care as local schools are often community centers. For families with more than one child, transportation issues are made simpler if they can drop their children off at one place. Some school-based programs extend the use of school bus services to children participating in the child care programs. The programs that would be eligible under this legislation are full day, year round programs. This helps parents who often face child care difficulties during school vacations and summer breaks.

School-based care programs are able to provide quality programs by utilizing existing resources at the schools such as art supplies, sports equipment, playgrounds, etc. Many collaborate with other community resources such

as school employees and social service agencies to further enhance the quality of their programs. Many programs are eligible to participate with the USDA Child and Adult Food Program and/or allow parents to purchase school lunches and snacks for the children in child care.

There are currently a number of school-based programs for before and after school care for school aged children. These programs should be supported and expanded. I believe that school-based care makes logical sense for both school-age children as well as pre-school children.

Recent research suggests that the first years of life are crucial for a child's emotional and intellectual development. As recently as 15 years ago, neuroscientists assumed that brain structure was genetically determined at the time of birth. They did not recognize that a child's early years have a tremendous impact on the structure of his or her brain. Neuroscientists have found that throughout development, even prior to birth, the brain is affected by environmental conditions, such as nourishment, care, surroundings, and stimulation. The human brain is constructed to benefit from experience and quality teaching, particularly in the first years of life.

Teachers and principals at Maine elementary schools tell me that in the last 5 years especially, but also for the last 10 or 15 years, they have seen a significant increase in 5 and 6 year old children with little or no capacity to play with other children or to participate in class. These kids lack the basic social skills that allow ordinary interaction with others. Consequently, they are extraordinarily difficult to teach. Many get their only real meals at school. Teachers and principals do not know how to deal with them. The explanation is always the same. They come from families where substance abuse is chronic, and neglect follows. If we miss early opportunities to promote healthy development and learning, later remediation may be more difficult and expensive.

Mr. Speaker, it is imperative that as we debate education, health, and child care issues that we take into account the compelling evidence regarding early childhood development. I urge my colleagues to support the Education-Child Care Partnership Act in the months to come.

TRIBUTE TO VICTIMS OF ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise this day to add my voice to the chorus of my colleagues in remembering the atrocious massacre of the Armenian people during World War I, the first genocide of the 20th century. I have always held that if the world had recognized this tragedy then, and learned from it, a step would have been taken toward preventing later massacres committed by the likes of Adolf Hitler and Pol Pot.

With every voice we lift, the Armenian people gain more strength to press for the ac-

knowledge of this genocide committed by the Ottoman empire. Americans, as a humanitarian people, must work with the Armenian communities to restore the names and faces of Armenian victims and honor their memories. We commemorate this anniversary to show that we have not forgotten, and will not forget what has taken place. We recognize this anniversary to say that we will resist the efforts of some to distort the truth about this genocide hoping to thereby minimize its significance.

Our efforts to remember must be matched by our actions to prevent genocides from ever again being committed in this world. Eighty-three years after Turkey's holocaust of the Armenians and fifty-three years after Hitler's holocaust of the Jews, we are still combating religious and ethnic intolerance and the attempts by despotic governments to silence unwanted minorities with bullets and fire. With the survivors of these genocides now few in number, it is our task, as those who know those survivors, to educate our children so that these killings will not be forgotten. If we fail in this task, our children may very well come to have new genocides to remember.

It is because of this duty to history that I commend the efforts of the Armenian community to shed light on the genocide which wiped out so many of their people. Without their strength and perseverance the full truth about the Armenian people and their struggle would be unknown to many today. Because of all this, it is vital for everyone today to commemorate the survival of the Armenian people in spite of what happened, and through that commemoration, to help prevent such crimes from ever happening again.

COUPLE DOTES ON FAMILY OF 10

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, what is right with America?

So often we heard about what is wrong with American families. Let me tell you what is right about one family in particular. Dan and Julie Danielowski. Dan and Julie have a total of five children, and that's a house full. But this loving couple, who live in Byron, Illinois, decided that there are some really needy kids in America. That's why Dan and Julie became foster parents to Jasmine and Jaminique, seven years and 18 months ago respectively. When Dan and Julie discovered these two girls had three siblings in another foster home, Dan and Julie worked on keeping the family together through regular visits.

The generous hearts of Dan and Julie became even more evident when they agreed to adopt all five of these children. That's a total of ten children. And they raise these kids on Dan's salary as a public school principal.

Their story is told in the April 23, 1998 edition of the Oregon (IL) Republican Reporter, which is attached.

Who says people in America don't care anymore? Just ask Dan and Julie Danielowski. They'll tell you what America is really about.

[From the Oregon (IL) Republican Reporter]

COUPLE DOTES ON FAMILY OF 10

(By Vinde Wells)

Julie Danielowski was miraculously still smiling as she loaded three baskets full of wet laundry into her van on a rainy afternoon in preparation for a trip to the laundromat.

"This isn't exactly how I'd planned the evening," she said with a grimace, "but the dryer is on the blink, and they say it will take two days to get the part we need."

The dryer is just one component crucial to the smooth operation of Danielowski's household—she and her husband Dan are the parents of 10 children ranging in age from four to 18.

Added to that are three dogs and an undetermined number of cats. "We just had two new litters so we aren't exactly sure," Dan said.

The Danielowskis live near Byron. The house they built themselves is situated on a large, wooded lot with plenty of elbow room.

The couple's family officially doubled March 5 when the adoption of their youngest five children became final.

Every aspect of Dan and Julie's lives attests to the fact that they like children.

Dan is the principal of Roosevelt Community Education Center, Rockford, which includes the Rockford School District's alternative high school and adult education center.

Julie is a secretary at Mary Morgan Elementary School, Byron.

When they married eight and a half years ago they blended their children from both their previous marriages. Dan had two and Julie had three, one of whom was adopted.

Dan said he really likes having kids around—lots of kids. "When it was just the two kids and I for a year or so, I really liked it when they had friends over."

Julie had previously been a foster parent, and Dan realized the need for foster care while he was an assistant high school principal.

He said he waited for several hours on one occasion with a student and a Department of Children and Family Services worker while the case worker searched for a place for the student to spend the night.

Dan said the case worker called numerous foster parents only to be repeatedly turned down.

He said they were interested in providing temporary foster care—a place for children to stay overnight or for a few days until more permanent arrangements can be made.

"We had foster care in mind when we built the house," Dan said. He said the house is designed in a modular fashion which allows for easy conversion of space from one use to another and for easy expansion.

The home has three bathrooms, six bedrooms and two family rooms. Dan is in the process of adding a deck on the back.

Adoption wasn't really part of the plan.

"With five kids I figured our lives would be crazy enough," Dan said with a laugh.

All that changed in August of 1995 when Julie got a call from Lutheran Social Services Inc. (LSSI) asking if they could take two girls for the night.

"We had a foster care license to do short term care," Julie said. "We thought it would be two days or couple of weeks."

The oldest and the youngest girls—Jasmine and Jaminique—arrived. They were seven years and 18 months respectively.

Dan and Julie soon learned that their two little girls came from a family of five. The other three children had been placed in another foster home.

Julie said that after six months they started providing weekend visits at their home for the other three children so all five children could be together.

Dan said that sometime within that time it became apparent that the youngsters could not return to their mother's care.

The situation was complicated because three agencies were involved. The Danielowskis were licensed through LSSI, and were working with both LSSI and DCFS for Jasmine and Jaminique.

The other three siblings—Jarmanda, Joe and Jovana—were under the supervision of the Children's Home and Aid Society.

Julie said adopting the children gradually became the obvious solution as the agencies involved searched for a permanent foster home.

Julie said Jasmine and Jaminique had been in five homes in the previous six months. She said she believed another move would be too much for Jasmine, who had taken on the role of mother to her sisters and brother.

Dan said that when they learned that all five children might be moved to yet another foster home they decided to act.

"LSSI offered to go to bat for us if we were interested in taking all five," he said.

Jamanda, Joe and Jovana came to live with the growing Danielowski family in August of 1996.

"It's something I don't think we could have done without the help of our older kids," Julie said.

Julie's day begins a little before 6 a.m. when she gets up. She makes sure everyone else is up by 6:30.

"You have to be organized, of course," she said, "but it's just what we do."

The family frequently sits down together for meals, she said. That alone is no small feat considering work, school and activities schedules.

All the children are involved in sports, and other school activities.

Dan and Julie are on the board of the Byron Civic Theatre, and Dan is currently directing the spring production of "Little Shop of Horrors".

Melissa, Jasmine, Jarmanda, Joe, Jovana and Jaminique swim with the Tiger Sharks.

Megan has a part-time job at a nearby veterinary clinic.

She and Kate will both graduate from Byron High School this spring and are headed for college in the fall. The two fifteen-year-olds, Ben and Riley, will start driving in the fall.

Before all that, however, is a matter of greater urgency—getting five ready for the prom.

The four high school age children are attending the event and Jovana, who is a first grader, will be the prom princess.

"Dan asked what this is going to cost us, and I said don't even go there," Julie said.

THE DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, since the early 1990s, Americans have witnessed staggering increases in illegal drug use, especially among our nation's youth. Marijuana experimentation is beginning at an earlier age, and as a result, our children are turning to deadly

drugs like LSD, heroin, crack and cocaine at progressively earlier ages. Drug abuse also expands our crime problem and is related to about half of all street crime.

And what is being done to solve this horrendous problem? Unfortunately, nothing by the Clinton Administration. In fact, one of President Clinton's first acts in office was to cut the Drug Czar's office by 83 percent. Since 1993, funding for drug interdiction programs has been reduced by roughly \$1 billion and federal drug prosecutions and arrests have plummeted.

In comparison, the Republican Congress has provided effective leadership in the war on drugs by providing resources for law enforcement and increased funding for DEA anti-drug initiatives such as combating Caribbean and Southwest border drug trafficking. In addition, we have provided ample funding for the Safe and Drug Free Schools program to establish comprehensive, integrated approaches to drug and violence prevention at our nation's schools.

Eliminating America's drug problem, especially the curse of drug use among our nation's youth, should be one of the federal government's top priorities. I applaud the House's passage yesterday of legislation prohibiting federal funding for needle exchange programs and I hope the Congress will continue to work to eradicate the scourge of drug abuse that continues to eat away at our homes, schools and neighborhoods.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO RON LEHMAN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding individual from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District, Mr. Ron Lehman.

Today, Thursday, April 30, 1998, Mr. Lehman will retire from his position as bailiff for the Sandusky County Court of Common Pleas in Fremont, OH. Ron, a highly regarded and distinguished law enforcement officer, will be retiring after 30 years of exemplary community service to the citizens of Sandusky County.

Thirty years ago, Ron began his career in law enforcement as a Police Officer for the City of Fremont. He later worked as a Deputy with the Sandusky County Sheriff's Department. In 1976, Ron began working as the bailiff for the Honorable Harry Sargeant at the Municipal Court. Three years later, in 1979, Ron continued his service with Judge Sargeant becoming the bailiff for the Court of Common Pleas, where he has served for the past 22 years.

Ron's dedication to law enforcement and to Judge Sargeant and the Court is surpassed only by his unwavering commitment to his family and his friends. To all those who know him, Ron is a wonderful person and a caring and loving husband.

They say that America works because of the unselfish acts of her citizens. No where is

that more evident than with the actions and contributions that Ron Lehman has given to his family, his profession, and his community.

Mr. Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Ron Lehman on the occasion of his retirement, and in wishing him the very best in the future.

SENSE OF CONGRESS ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING OF MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it is a special privilege for me today to honor the nation of Israel on its 50th birthday. On May 14, 1948—the fifth day of Iyar, 5708 under the Jewish calendar—after years without a national homeland, the Jewish people established a new country and the historic nation of Israel was reborn. As Israelis celebrate their country's 50th anniversary, the international community is celebrating with them 50 years of independence.

In the 5th Congressional District of Wisconsin, the Milwaukee Jewish Federation, the Hillel Foundation-Milwaukee, the Jewish Community Center, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Center for Jewish Studies, the Coalition for Jewish Learning, and other organizations have scheduled a series of events to commemorate this occasion. On May 15th, the Consul General of Israel to the Midwest, Tzipora Rimon, will come to Milwaukee to participate in a forum called "Israel at 50! Taking Her Place in the Global Economy." I look forward to participating in that important conference.

As someone with a great interest in Israel, Middle Eastern affairs and world peace, I believe that the political transformations in this region during the past few years have been dramatic. I was deeply saddened when Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was felled by an assassin's bullet on November 4, 1995. I met with Prime Minister Shimon Peres in February, 1996, during a visit to Israel with the group Milwaukee-Jerusalem 3000. And I listened as his successor Benjamin Netanyahu addressed a joint session of Congress, in July 1996. We have come a long way, despite attempts by extreme factions to harm Israel and the cause of peace in the region.

I would like to quote an excerpt from Israel's "declaration of independence," published 50 years ago as the British mandate over the area drew to an end: "We extend our hand in peace and neighbourliness to all the neighbouring states and their peoples, and invite them to cooperate with the independent Jewish nation for the common good of all."

It is in that spirit, and with that faith, that I will continue to work with the administration to ensure the United States remains firm in its commitment to the security of Israel and to those principles necessary to guarantee the success of the Arab-Israeli peace process.

HIGHER EDUCATION AMENDMENTS
OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to extend the authorization of programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes:

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. A college education has become a virtual necessity for success, but the rising cost of tuition has put that diploma further and further out of reach for many students.

I am particularly glad that this bill makes more funds available for financial aid programs, and especially Pell Grants, which help open the doors of college to America's neediest students. Increasing the maximum Pell Grant from \$3,000 to \$4,500 may not sound like a lot, but to many students it makes all the difference in the world.

Now that we have authorized more funds for Pell Grants, I encourage my colleagues to work together to support a budget that makes that money available to students who are depending on this financial aid to pay for their college education. It does no good to authorize increases if we do not make the money available to make those increases real.

I am also pleased that we have worked out a compromise that will lower the interest rates on student loans. But I am concerned about the billion dollar pay off we are giving to lending institutions. This money will actually make student loans more profitable for banks than the typical loan portfolio.

We should put that funding toward financial aid programs and helping students—not bankers. But overall, I believe this bill does the right thing in making college accessible to more Americans, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

TRIBUTE TO THE FRANKLIN
TOWNSHIP LIONS CLUB ON
THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Franklin Township Lions Club which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

Having served as a Lion myself since 1982 in this very club, I am well aware of the important role and contribution that the Lions Club makes in so many communities around our country especially in the Township of Franklin, New Jersey. As the former Mayor of the Township, I can personally attest to the numerous activities and the community involvement of the Lions.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

In particular, the Franklin Lions helped to found the Township's Little League, funded the scoreboard at the High School, hosted a Halloween parade, and raised money for the High School seniors to go on to college through scholarships. They have also provided eye glasses, eye exams, hearing tests and a host of other health related screenings to all the members of the community. And it was the Lions who raised the funds for a sensory garden for the handicapped and blind. Their fund raising efforts have also served members of the community in need. In one such instance, the Lions worked tirelessly to help raise the necessary funds to help a young man in the community who was in need of a liver transplant.

I would like to congratulate the Club's current officers, Joseph Bocklage, President and Treasurer, Julius Schwartz, First Vice President, Upendra Chivukula, Second Vice President, John Dutkowski, Secretary, Mario Zanon, Tail Twister/Lion Tamer, Lou Agg and Harold Rosenzweig who act as first year directors, Kevin Hrabinski and Bernie Rubin who serve as second year directors and Brendan Nihill the Membership Chairman. Each of these men and all of the other men and women of the club have selflessly given of their time and resources to serve their community.

As this Congress continues to emphasize the need for service organizations and volunteers to assume a greater role in one Society, it will be organizations like the Lions that year after year continue to bring about positive change. On Saturday night, the Franklin Township Lions Club will hold the 50th anniversary dinner and I would like to extend my best wishes. The people of your community, the people of New Jersey and the people of America thank you for your service.

As America looks toward the 21st century, Lion's Clubs around the nation stand ready and committed, full of energy, creativity and solutions to help us become a better society and solve the problems that face our nation. The Lion's motto, "We serve" is an inspiration to us all because it epitomizes this organization's commitment to their fellow man.

TRIBUTE TO HENRY AND JANET
ROSMARIN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, my colleague Mr. WAXMAN and I rise today to pay tribute to Henry and Janet Rosmarin, who are actively involved with Temple Ner Maarav and the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Project. Their interest in the latter is more than historical; Henry and Janet are survivors themselves.

Henry, born Henryk Rosmarin, and Janet, born Jazdia Jakubowicz, met in her father's apartment in the shtetl of Czeladz in Poland. Henry came to High Holiday services, illegal under the rules of the conquering Nazi powers. Two years later the Gestapo rounded up all the Jews in the village.

As the Nazis closed in, Henry, displaying remarkable bravado and optimism, turned to Janet and said, "When this is all over we should find each other and we should get married and make a life together." She promised to meet him back in the same town when they were free.

A few weeks later they were deported to the death camps. During the war Janet was an inmate at Auschwitz and Birkenau; Henry at Gross-Rosen, Buchenwald and a few others. One of the ways Henry survived was with his harmonica. He entertained his captors in return for his life.

Most of Henry's family and most of Janet's family were murdered in the camps. Despite his grief, Henry kept his promise. He returned to Czeladz and waited for Janet. After several months a young woman came to town and happened to ask a cousin of Henry's what had become of Henryk Rosmarin. "You must be Jazdia Jakubowicz," was the startled reply.

Fifty years ago, Henry and Janet were married. They raised a family and settled in Southern California. The Rosmarins have somehow retained the values of the shtetl—family and community—while living in an entirely different and more complex world.

We ask our colleagues to join us in honoring Janet and Henry Rosmarin, whose story is testimony to the power of the human spirit. Their will to live is a stirring example for us all.

TRIBUTE TO THE CEA

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fine organization that represents the teachers of my state, the Connecticut Education Association. 1998 marks the 150th anniversary of the CEA, an advocate of teachers and public education that represents not only the 30,000 teachers in its ranks but the hundreds of thousands of children they instruct.

We in Congress all know the crucial role that teachers play in educating our nation's children. We as legislators and parents count on them to do their job with enthusiasm, vigor, and skill. We value them as important factors in our children's well-being, and we treat them as such.

However, respect for teachers has not always been as high as our beliefs would suggest. For many decades, teacher pay and benefits were lower than in most other occupations. Society did not reward teachers properly for their performance nor were they provided with much needed support.

Organizations such as the CEA have enlightened the public and its legislators about the need to attract and keep excellent teachers, the need to compensate them appropriately for their toils, and the need to provide them with a supportive work environment that helps them do their job at the level we expect. The CEA has worked and is still working to advance the teaching profession and accordingly, advance the children they instruct.

When the CEA was formed in 1848, teachers in Connecticut's small towns, many of

which are in my district, were typically versatile young women who made education come alive from bland textbooks. They taught in one-room schoolhouses in which all of the town's children attended, they formulated lesson plans for each child, catering to individual needs.

The CEA came about as a means of helping teachers with their tasks. As Connecticut grew and modernized, the CEA took action to improve teacher's pay and establish teaching as a profession. Salaries rose, benefits grew, and the requirements that were placed on teachers were expanded. Because of these hard fought efforts, the quality of instruction in our classrooms has increased. Today's teachers benefit from predecessors who sacrificed pay and time so that our children would benefit from high-quality teachers and a high-quality environment.

Today's public school teachers are just as versatile as their 19th century counterparts. A typical Connecticut teacher today must deal with as many as 150 or more students in one day, students from a variety of backgrounds, from a variety of family structures, with a variety of interests, and deal with a variety of pressures. Despite the enormity of their task, teachers regularly deliver. The CEA serves as their partner in their efforts, providing services and assistance to its members.

I commend the CEA on its proud history and congratulate it on the milestone it has reached. Connecticut, and the nation, is undoubtedly better off because of the CEA.

TRIBUTE TO BELLEFONTE AREA HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JOHN E. PETERSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishments of a dedicated group of young people who worked together to achieve something no one in the Bellefonte Area High School has ever done. I wish to pay tribute to students and their faculty advisors who participated in the Central District History Day Project Competition. They won first and third places in the Senior's Group Project Division.

This year's History Day Project theme was Migration. First place went to Kamal Aboul-Hosn, Justin Miller, and Ben Spicer for their project entitled "Communism: Rise, Reign & Fall." Third place went to Stacey Waksmonski, Jessica Rhoads, Jessica Benson, Jeremy Acker, and Daria Cramer for their project entitled "Women of the West—Travels and Changes."

Today's youth are our leaders of tomorrow. They will become some of the very best leaders because of examples like the faculty members of the Bellefonte Area High School. Faculty advisors Ed Fitzgerald, Martha Nastase, and Tricia Steckel are to be especially commended for their encouraging efforts which led to the above awards. When we hear about the poor state of education or educators in our country, we need to think about success stories such as these. Hard work and commit-

ment will achieve much as these students and faculty members demonstrate.

I extend my warmest congratulations and best wishes to these Bellefonte Area High School students as they compete in the State Championship Competition at State College on May 13-14. Their enthusiasm for this project and desire to share history is commendable and should be encouraged by all.

HIGHER EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to extend the authorization of programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes:

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank both the Chairman and the Ranking Member of the Education and the Workforce Committee, along with both the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education for including many of the provisions in a bill I introduced, H.R. 3311, to improve International Education programs in H.R. 6. As a member of the International Relations Committee and the Education and Workforce Committee, I am well aware that if we are to be competitive in this global economy then we must continue to encourage and support programs designed to educate our students in foreign languages, diplomacy and international affairs. Throughout the years, Title VI has been extremely effective in helping colleges and universities reach that goal. In order to encourage higher education institutions to give greater support to undergraduate international relations and foreign language programs, a provision from my bill was included in H.R. 6 to give the Secretary the authority to fund Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Programs up to 10% of all Part B funds. Also included was an optional, non-federal match of one-third cash from the private sector to encourage more applicants to leverage funding from private sector corporations or foundations. The inclusion of Technological Innovation and Cooperation for Foreign Information Access grants in H.R. 6 enables institutions and libraries to engage in collaborative international education projects utilizing innovative technology. This kind of program is timely as universities and libraries are faced with the escalating costs of access to international resources. In light of the enormous need to expand leadership in international affairs and language study at minority institutions, the new Institutional Development grant program was created to strengthen international affairs programs and curricula by providing subgrants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions, and Tribally Controlled Community Colleges. Also included in H.R. 6 are changes that were in my bill to the Institution for International Public

Policy to expand the current junior year abroad program to permit summer abroad experiences. H.R. 6 also specifically provides for post baccalaureate internships to provide Institute fellows with quality work experience prior to pursuing Masters degree study. To assist in the coordination of Federal support for the Institute/minority international affairs programs, H.R. 6 also created a seven member Inter-agency Committee on Minority Careers in International Affairs. I would finally like to urge the Committee to consider separating the International Education programs and Graduate School programs in to separate titles as the Senate bill does. The inclusion of both programs in one title is unnecessary and causes difficulty in ensuring that both programs are funded properly. Thank you again for your work on this important title.

HIGHER EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to extend the authorization of programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes:

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Chairman, I am worried about education in this country. America spends far more on public education than any other country in the world, yet our students have fallen far behind those in other nations in actual educational achievement. Since 1960, government spending on elementary and secondary education has increased nearly three-fold. However, test scores have plummeted, and the high school drop-out rate is higher than ever.

As a father of seven, grandfather of thirty-four, and former school board member, I have a personal interest in seeing that all children have equal access to a good education. Mr. Chairman, today we will have the opportunity to take a big step forward in this effort.

The truth is, education is no longer affordable for many families. Between 1987 and 1996, the actual cost of educating a student rose 57 percent while the tuition charge rose even faster, at rate of 132 percent. H.R. 6 will help make college more affordable by simplifying the student aid system, stressing academic quality for students, and providing superior training for teachers.

Mr. Chairman, H.R. 6 brings us closer to our goal of ensuring that every student who seeks a quality education will be able to receive it. I commend Congressman McKEON and Congressman GOODLING for their leadership on this most important issue, and I urge my colleagues to support the Higher Education Amendments.

SENSE OF CONGRESS ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING OF MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Ms. HARMAN: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the modern State of Israel, and I commend my colleague, Mr. LANTOS, for introducing this resolution that reaffirms the strong bond of friendship and cooperation between Israel and the United States.

Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago, when David Ben Gurion proclaimed the State of Israel, the world was still reeling from a devastating conflict, and from the realization that more than six million Jews had perished in an orchestrated extermination campaign. The embryonic State of Israel gave hope to Jews everywhere that safety, freedom, and justice could be found at last—and in the ancient cradle of their religion and civilization. And so they have.

And, in the 50 years since its establishment, Israel has accomplished much more than providing a haven for Jews around the world. It has become a vibrant pluralistic democracy—indeed still the only fully realized democracy in the Middle East—and has enjoyed dramatic economic success, even as it sought to achieve security and peace with its neighbors. Throughout these five decades, it has remained a stalwart U.S. ally in one of the most unstable regions in the entire world.

Mr. Speaker, a half-century of friendship and cooperation between Israel and the United States began with President Truman's recognition of Israel shortly after its establishment. It continues today, with our common search for security and peace in the Middle East.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the people of Israel on the occasion of this memorable milestone.

HONORING SISTER LUCIA
CECCOTTI

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, May 2, 1998, Sister Lucia Ceccotti will retire after 35 years of caring from her duties as Principal and Executive Director of the Marian Center, which is located in my Congressional district. The Marian Center has educated and trained since 1963, many of the mentally handicapped young men and women of South Florida. Her devotion to her children is evidence of her commitment to the ideals of God.

Born in Pisa, Italy, Sister Lucia Ceccotti joined the Institute of the Sisters of St. Joseph Cottolengo at the age of 18. In Italy, she served as principal of a high school, Mistress of the Postulants, Visitor General, and General

Secretary and Counselor of her beloved congregation.

In addition to certificates and degrees in teaching, nursing, and Italian language from various Italian institutions, Sister Lucia holds a Master of Science degree in Administration and Special Education from St. Thomas University in Miami.

Outside of the Marian Center, Sister Lucia has served the parish of St. Philip in various capacities since November 1985. She has given her services, love, and dedication to all with whom she has had contact.

Were all people as humble and loving as Sister Lucia, this world would certainly be a better place. We are each blessed to have had Sister with us and we have all benefited, directly or indirectly, from her efforts.

I thank Sister Lucia for her work and wish her Godspeed in her new endeavors. I am certain that the Lord will watch over you every step of the way.

LEGISLATION INTRODUCED TO
REMEDY SPECIAL USE PERMITS
PROBLEM

HON. ROBERT SMITH

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to remedy a problem that affects several thousand holders of special use permits in our national forests. These permits have been authorized since 1915, and many of these permits have been passed down through families over those years.

For several months now, the Forest Service has been reappraising the cabins and other recreational homes on these sites, and as the appraisal process continues, I am concerned that the Forest Service has gone far afield in its real estate valuations in determining what are typical categories of lots occupied by recreational special use permittees.

For example, reports of reappraisals and new fees coming from the Sawtooth National Recreation Area in Idaho show that more than one-third of permittees will have their fees increased in a range of 100 to 500 percent. Reports of fees ranging from a few hundred dollars into the tens of thousands do not appear to be fair, nor related to the true costs to the government of running the permit program, and may not generally reflect the value of the permit to the holder.

A permit holder has limited use of the cabin or recreational home; the facility may not be used as a year-round residence or used for any commercial purpose, and permittees certainly will never own the property in the same sense any other person obtains title in fee simple to a property. In fact, a holder is liable to lose the occupancy permit at the Forest Service's discretion, including the Forest Service deciding just not to renew the permit.

Other limitations apply: the number and type of improvements are restricted, direct permit transfers are not allowed; and the land may only be used for personal recreation. There are no services such as fire protection, road

maintenance, water or sanitation services offered.

As mentioned above, the current reappraisal process has problems. These cabins are not owned in the usual sense but rather are constructed for a use that is specified and prescribed by the Forest Service. So, there are problems with appraising these sites at what the Forest Service believes to be their fair market value.

The five percent assessment rate also is a problem. And, it has been reported the Forest Service understands there are questions about applying a five percent multiplier to the property valuation and whether or not it is a valid method for determining the fee.

The bill I am introducing today seeks to fix the problem of exorbitant permit holder fees.

The bill covers all special use permits for recreational homeowners on National Forest System lands; it establishes a base fee as that fee in effect on January 1, 1998 or the fee in effect upon enactment; it increases the fee annually based on the inflation rate; it allows for transfers of the permit by a permit holder to a spouse, child or grandchild without requiring a change to the permit; it requires any other transfer of a permit to be subject to a fee adjustment in a manner otherwise prescribed by law or regulation; and it allows permit renewals after enactment to be issued using the permit fee that was last in effect.

HONORING THE WEQUONNOC
SCHOOL

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a school in my district, the Wequonnoc School of Norwich, Connecticut. On May 5th of 1998, the Wequonnoc School will receive a national award for excellence through the Title I Recognition Program at the International Reading Association Annual Convention.

Only two schools in Connecticut and one hundred and nine schools around the nation will receive the Title I Recognition Award. I am proud of Wequonnoc's membership in this elite group. This is especially commendable considering the special challenges Wequonnoc faces in Norwich. Just 39 percent of Wequonnoc's students attended preschool, compared with 55 percent of Norwich's students and 69 percent of the state's students. Wequonnoc clearly proves that every student can succeed in an excellent school.

Wequonnoc has maintained its high educational standard by encouraging strong family participation in the educational process.

Continuing their good work, the school is studying new parent empowerment strategies in an effort to involve even more parents in their children's education.

In 1994 Wequonnoc initiated a Family Resource Center that offers a wide range of services including year round preschool and school-aged child care, adult education, and a

variety of other services. These services are essential if we are going to make it possible for young people to be successful in life.

Wequonnoc is ultimately successful because the administration, teachers, students

and families take education seriously and are willing to work hard to help all of their students succeed.

The Wequonnoc School is a model for the nation in how to educate students from every

background. I congratulate the students, teachers, families and administrators of Wequonnoc for their tremendous work in educating the young people of Connecticut.